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book is unfortunate in this respect. The technique suggested in many cases, doubtless, will not be received with favor by experienced laboratory workers.

Claim to originality is made by the author with respect to the presentation of the subject only. On the whole, the book is written in a style which is clear and concise. Some of the unqualified statements should be modified to meet the prevailing opinion of to-day. To aid in a future edition we should call attention also to the lettering of the diagrams to represent optical phenomena of the microscope, which we believe to be inadequate and confusing.

A book compiled on the plan of this one will do good service in the place to which the author in the preface modestly assigns it: 'It is to the beginner in microscopy, and particularly to him who must work without the personal guidance of a teacher, that the book may prove of value.'

G. FRANKLIN WHITE.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

The American Journal of Mathematics for October contains the following articles: 'The Plane Geometry of the Point in Point-Space of Four Dimensions,' by C. J. Keyser; 'On the Functions Representing Distances and Analogous Functions,' by H. F. Blichfeldt; 'Surfaces whose Lines of Curvature in One System are Represented on the Sphere by Great Circles,' by L. P. Eisenhart; 'On the Invariants of a Homogeneous Quadratic Differential Equation of the Second Order,' by D. R. Curtiss; 'Surfaces of Constant Mean Curvature,' by L. P. Eisenhart.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

MICHIGAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB.

AFTER a few years of apparent sleep, the Michigan Ornithological Club was reorganized at Detroit on February 13, 1903. The officers elected for the current year are: *President*, Adolphe B. Covert, Ann Arbor; *Vice-President*, Dr. Phillip E. Moody, Detroit; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Bradshaw H. Swales, Detroit. Two permanent committees were created. The

committee on Geographical Distribution consists of Dr. Charles C. Adams (chairman), Ann Arbor; Professor Walter B. Barrows, Agricultural College; Bryant Walker and B. H. Swales, of Detroit. The Bird Protection Committee consists of Edward Arnold (chairman), Battle Creek; Professor Walter B. Barrows, Agricultural College; James B. Purdy, Plymouth, to act in conjunction with Wm. Dutcher, chairman of the Protection Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union.

It was decided to continue the former club journal styled the *Bulletin of the Michigan Ornithological Club*, three numbers of which (Vol. IV.) have appeared so far. Alexander W. Blain, Jr., was made editor and business manager, and later J. Claire Wood, of Detroit, and Adolphe B. Covert, of Ann Arbor, were elected associates. The *Bulletin* is published by the club at Detroit as an illustrated quarterly devoted to the ornithology of the Great Lake region.

The prospects for the Ornithological Club in the Wolverine state seem most bright, and the society already has over one hundred members enrolled. Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at the Detroit Museum of Art and annual meetings will be held at the same time and place as the annual meeting of the Michigan Academy of Science.

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DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

MICHIGAN PLANT SOCIETIES AGAIN.

THE thorough remodeling which my paper on the upland plant societies of Kent County, Mich.,* received at the hands of Mr. Francis Daniels in *SCIENCE* for August 14, 1903, makes this note by the author seem necessary. In the first place, I hasten to acknowledge with thanks the two very bad blunders which the reviewer has pointed out. *Quercus ilicifolia* should read *Q. prinoides*, and *Vitis cordifolia* should be replaced by *V. riparia*.

In the original paper the author expressly

* Annual Report State Board of Geol. Survey, Mich., 1901, pp. 81-103. *Botanical Gazette*, 35: 36-55. 1903.